

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/809,457

Examiner

Hong Cho

Applicant(s)

LEONARD, MARTIN EUGENE

Art Unit

2662

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 1/18/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11, 14 and 15 (renumbered 1-13).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 18 January 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with David Chung on 5/20/2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 14, line 1, "12" has been changed to - - 11 --.

The examiner's amendment is done to correct claim 14 dependency.

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

2. Claims 1-11, 14 and 15 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement for reasons for allowance.

3. Claim 1 is allowable over the prior art of record since the cited references taken individually or in combination fail to particularly teach or fairly suggest a method of arbitrating access to a bus having a plurality of ports, said method comprising the steps of assigning each port a unique address which defines a unique priority value, generating a repeating, variable length frame, bidding for access to the bus during at least one predefined clock of the frame, granting access to the bidding port having the highest priority and placing the other bidding port addresses in a queue. It is noted that the closest prior art of record, Hasley shows a method of granting access to the bidding port

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having the highest priority, but fails to disclose placing the other bidding port addresses in a queue.

Claims 7 and 11 are allowable over the prior art of record since the cited references taken individually or in combination fail to particularly teach or fairly suggest a method for improving bus performance and bandwidth utilization in a parallel bus LAN, said method comprising the steps of providing a parallel bus LAN having a plurality of data lines and a clock bus, avoiding data collisions by implementing, during a portion of a variable length time frame, a bidding arbitration scheme such that only one bus user can transmit on the bus at one time, the bidding arbitration scheme assigning each port a unique address which defines a unique priority value, wherein access is granted to a port having the highest priority and wherein the other port addresses are placed in a queue, each port maintaining a copy of the queue. It is noted that the closest prior art of record, Hasley shows a method of granting access to the bidding port having the highest priority, but fails to disclose placing the other bidding port addresses in a queue, each port maintaining a copy of the queue.

### ***Conclusion***

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
  - US Patent (6782457) to Hill
  - US Patent (6701399) to Brown

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5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hong Cho whose telephone number is 571-272-3087.


The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri during 7 am to 4 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hassan Kizou can be reached on 571-272-3088. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-3088.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

hc

Hong Cho  
Patent Examiner  
5/20/2005



HASSAN KIZOU  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
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